## FROM THE FIELD.

### North Manchester, Ind.

It is hoped that the Brethren church here will be in a better condition for work ere long. Bro. Swihart, the church's present Eld., has sent in a request that the election of a pastor be made a part of the business at the next regular quarterly business meeting, which will be Thursday afternoon, July 4th. The Eld. says, 'The church work should not be hindered on account of delay in this matter.'

Manchester is now being boomed in several ways. The Salvation Army has come down upon us and is doing its usual work. The U. B. people are locating a college here. They are removing from Roanoke this state where they had been located for a quarter of a century. They have selected a beautiful site here on the north-east part of town, and are already working at the grounds and buildings. If we remain here long enough, we shall again be in sight of college buildings and workers. No doubt it will recall old scenes and memories.

Besides bringing the college. the U. B. people are holding a camp-meeting here under the management of Rev. R. J. Parrett, their traveling evangelist who has his home here. He has his tents. Audience, boarding hall, and dwellings which he takes with him in doing his evangelistic work through the summer season. His meetings here are of a union character. The different denominations assisting. He holds three services each day, being assisted by home preachers.

Manchester is a town of preachers. There are fifteen living here I believe. Among that number there are two Brethren. But while we have so many preachers here, still the town is not all for Christ. The devil has his followers also. When Luther said, 'Just back of each church the devil builds a chapel,' he was right. Especially does it seem true in Manchester, for we have six churches and six saloons. The saloons, however, are not 'Just back of the churches.' They are close enough, though, to tell on the work of the church. It is hoped by good people that the day will come when the devil will have to take down these chapels of which I speak. Well, I have done like preachers do sometimes when they are not thoroughly prepared, lose the text. I was talking about Manchester's booms. There are some others besides those I have named, in the way of business enterprise. They all are adding to the prosperity of the town.

I desire to say in these notes, that the programme for our coming Conference in this State will soon be out, so that we can see what is before us in that line. On the question as to whether we shall have a mass or a delegated Conference, some of the churches have already acted. The Brighton church was the first to report. It would be quite an advantage to the committee on railroad arrangements to know how this question will go, before doing their work. They would know how to act with the railroad men in securing rates for travel to a better advantage. Here is a plan by which we can give this information to the committee. The majority of the churches in the State will decide the question one way or the other. Then could not all the different pastors put the questions before his charges and be able to report by July 15. I give that length of time, as some of the pastors only get to their work once a month. Brethren let us do this and get the matter settled, for delay often means neglect. Send your communications to me and I shall put them into the hands of the Executive Committee. God grant the pastors and churches of Ind., a special blessing to prepare us for more effectual work.

W. C. PERRY.

### Topsail, Pa.

On hearing of the dreadful disaster at Johnstown, Pa., and having seven of our own children living there, also one son-in-law and one daughter-in-law, making in all nine of our family, with their children, we could neither eat nor sleep, until we could find out something about them. So on Monday night I started for Johnstown. Went by way of Pittsburgh, and the nearer we got to the place the more plainly we could see the signs of the flood.

About eleven a. m., Tuesday, we landed at Sang Hollow, five miles below Johnstown where the road was washed out, and from there with hundreds of others we walked, and on nearing the place I trembled to see the marks of the terrible destruction of life and property. On I went until I came to Cambria City, here I met one of our old neighbors, who formely lived near to us and worked with us for years. We clasped hands. I said, 'Well, Bro. Varner, how did you fare in this terrible flood?' Oh, said he, 'I have a sad story to tell you. Two weeks ago I moved to this town and five of my children went down in this flood, and there on that tree yonder one of our daughters lodged and was found next day.' I passed on and on and soon came to the stone bridge just below the passenger station, when I only began to see the destruction. It is beyond description. On I went for about one mile further, until I could see Woodvale borough, the place our children lived, when I was made to feel as I had never felt before. With the exceptions of fifteen or twenty houses on the hillside, (and in one of these four of our children lived) not one dwelling house could be seen, where a few days before from three to four hundred houses stood.

With a trembling frame and eyes full of tears, on I went until I came near the house where our children lived, when one after another came running to meet me with the good news, we are all safe. This was far enough beyond our expectations, and we truly had great reason to thank the Lord for his goodness. Not that our children were better than others that perished in the flood, but they were nearer to us.

Next day I walked over a good part of the floaded city and saw such sights as I hope I may never see again.

The loss of members in the Johnstown church was very few in number, and their meeting house is only slightly damaged. The same can be said of the church at East Conemaugh, only their house was not hurt with the flood. I left Johnstown on Saturday the 8th. Stopped at Bridgeport over Sunday; returned home on Monday.

STEPHEN HILDEBRAND.

### Chronicles.

Came from Twelve Mile over to College Corner on the 8th inst., and held services over Lord's day, and on Monday evening we held communion services. Some of the brethren were hindered by sickness so they could not attend, yet there were about three score and a half at the table. Sister Domer was in attendance from North Manchester, and Fisher from Mexico, and brother Fox, Cuningham; Sherick and several others from Bunker Hill.

The communion was orderly, but owing to an over crowded house there was much confusion in the audience. I hope the time will come speedily when the Brethren church will see the propriety of holding their communions after the example given by the Redeemer. I see no reason why we should make a public exhibition of the solemn ordinances of God's house, and rob the members of the church of the satisfaction of quiet, sweet communion with the Lord and one another. Why not hold these meetings for the church alone, or mainly so, and keep the nocturnal roughs away. Fiends in human form delight to collect at such places, and should we encourage their evil deeds by our exhibitions; why not hold our communions privately as Jesus did?

There was another one baptized at the communion season. This church has been steadily on the increase since its organization. It has a sprightly membership of about eighty, many of whom are young people who bid fair to do much good in the world.

J. H. SWIHART.

June 11, 1889.

### Campbell Chips.

We are trying to work for the Master. On Sunday the 12th of May, we were called upon to lead two sisters into the baptismal waters of the cold Water river, to immerse them into the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, to rise to newness of life. Consecration services in the evening and preaching immediately after to an attentive congregation. Those two came out under Bro. Kilhefner's preaching last winter.

We have preaching nearly every Lord's Day and sometimes twice or thrice in the day. Our congregations are generally large and attentive. On last Sunday I disappointed, in part, my congregations at the South Campbell church on account of a funeral I was called upon to preach. Obituary next week. But the congregation was not much disappointed as they had a good meeting. It is not always the preacher that makes the best meetings. If there are a class of good workers, they can have good meetings, preacher or no preacher.

Our communion is a thing of the past. We had a good meeting and while the clouds sent down the showers thick and fast to moisten the earth, God sent us showers of grace and blessings to moisten our spiritual natures. Especially did we rejoice in God when I gave the invitation to sinners to come and give God their hearts and the church their hands, three precious souls responded. These three were baptized the same hour; also one by relation. So you see there is a gain of four. In the evening at 7 o'clock consecration services. After that about sixty brethren and sisters surrounded the table of the Lord to partake of the solemn emblem of the broken body and shed blood of our adorable Master.

Elder Samuel W. Phiels and Bro. Milton Horner, of Brighton, Ind., were with us and done us good service. The Lord will reward them for all the good they done. Elder Phiels officiated at the communion services and preached three solid gospel sermons to the satisfaction of all and also gave our Sabbath School an able address. Come again Bro. Samuel.

Our Sabbath School is largely attended by both young and old; last Sunday was our smallest school we had yet the number being only 82. This was on account of the rain and mud. Our average attendance is about 125 with a live corps of officers and teachers. We use no quarterlies or lesson leaves, only the Testament. The school commits to memory from 200 to 400 verses each Sunday. Let this suffice for the present. I will give a report of the school some future time.

If a member of the church moves into another district or church it is the pastor's duty to see that that member gets a certificate of membership if he is worthy of one. If this rule was strictly complied with much trouble would be avoided.

We had snow, rain and frosts inside of two weeks, corn and all vegetation were considerably nipped but do not think it injured the wheat and fruit.

I will remind the churches of Michigan, that we will hold a State Conference in the Campbell District sometime in the fall and it is time to think and act as to time, programme, etc. I appeal to all elders and ministers in the State. As we are not fully organized yet, in order to make it a success, something must be done soon. What say you brethren?

J. G. WINEY.

### Lanark, Ill.

We held our communion services on Sunday evening, June 9. There was preaching on Friday evening, Saturday evening, Sunday morning and at 3 p. m. The weather during all this time was very unfavorable, being rainy and the roads muddy, however we had a very enjoyable meeting in the evening. About 60 members were seated around the Lord's table, some for the first time. The meeting was large considering the weather. On Sunday three were baptized and three united with us by relation. Thank God we are still awake and alive.

The new church in Milledgeville is up, and according to contract will be finished Aug. 1st. For the encouragement of all we are glad to say that our prospects never were brighter. The work is going grandly on, by trusting in God and doing right. We hope at last to realize fully the promise of the great jubilee in the end of this age, the marriage supper of the Lamb.

Z. T. LIVENGOOD.

### From The Fair Haven Church.

Our communion meeting on the evening of June 3rd, was well attended. With brethren Brown and Jacobs assisting, made it appear like olden times. One sister was added to the church from the Evangelical church, formerly a German Baptist. The church at Fair Haven seems to be in a healthy condition, our congregations, as a rule, are good.

The Sunday School is in a prosperous condition, with D. J. Miller as Superintendent and J. A. Martin, Assistant. All the officers and teachers seem to understand their business.

Today after the sermon we took up a public collection for the repairing of the Johnstown church house. After counting the money, and what was promised to be paid in two weeks, we had about forty-two dollars, which will be forwarded as soon as all is paid in.

WM. KIEFER, Pastor.

June 16, '89.

### Berlin, Pa.

The Somerset congregation passed another of her semi-annual communion seasons on Sunday, June 2, and barring the general gloom cast upon all by the sad news from Johnstown, it was a pleasant and profitable season to this congregation. We had the promise of the presence of Bro. Adams, of Johnstown, to be with us and labor for us on this occasion, but while men plan God disposes. So we were left by ourselves till the evening service, when Bro. J. L. Kimmel came to our assistance. We had the pleasure at the morning service to lead to and into the baptismal waters three young ladies. May they with this congregation become useful and shining members in the Master's cause, is the wish of their pastor.

JOHN H. KNEPPER.

June 10, 1889.

## OUR CHURCH.

Bro. S. H. Bashor's address will be Mexico, Ind., after this week.

Bro. W. L. Stahl left on Wednesday of last week for his home in Pennsylvania. He expects to visit awhile and then go west.

Sister Anna Wrightsman, of Limestown, Tenn., sends us $5 for the College, with her good wishes. On behalf of the College we thank her.

The Brethren at Dallas Center, Iowa, expect to hold a communion on the evening of June 22nd, at 7 o'clock. An invitation is extended to all.—N. Flora.

The report of the Ohio S. S. Convention has not been sent in yet. We have said little about it, for the reason that we did not want to anticipate its interests.

The Brethren at Ashland have subscribed over a dollar apiece to the resident membership, for the fund to repair the Johnstown church. Let other churches do likewise.

There will be a love feast held at the Brethren church at Almena, Mich., Saturday evening, July 6, 1889. The usual invitation is extended to all the sister congregations. Please come.—H. H. Snyder.

Walkerton, Ind., June 11, '89. We have opened fire in the locality of North Liberty, Ind. When we came the Brethren were unknown here so far as preaching here was concerned. Up to date twelve have been baptized. We expect to organize a class.—J. H. Palmer.